

March 18, 1982

LB 435

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. President, Senator Landis would like to have a repeat of the Clerk's reading of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: All right, Mr. Clerk, will you repeat the motion?

CLERK: (Reread Beutler amendment.)

SENATOR BEUTLER: Pat, that should be line 27, page 17, is that what you said?

CLERK: Yes, sir, I thought I did. (Continued reading Beutler amendment.)

PRESIDENT: Okay, Senator Beutler, do you want to take it from there?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I apologize for being such a nuisance this morning but they were two important bills that did a lot of things. 428, we have already discussed. 435 is another bill that to my knowledge hasn't had a lot of discussion this session and it showed up on Final Reading, and as you can see, it is a bill of 50 pages which broadly expands the powers of housing authorities and creates joint housing authorities and allows for the merger and combining of housing authorities, a very, very comprehensive bill that I have a number of problems with but I tried to set forth the four things that struck me as items that certainly should be changed in the bill before we pass it. If you would turn to page 17 of the bill and look at line 27, the only thing I have done there is drop the word "present" so that when the board of the housing authority votes on an issue, whatever that issue may be, the vote that would be required would be a majority of the commissioners. The way the bill reads right now a majority of those present can vote to effectuate all of these additional powers that the housing authority has in addition to all of its existing authorities. A majority of those present under the bill the way it is and under the current law the way it was, too, I object generally to this kind of a provision. Under the current bill a simple majority of those present which could be as few as two people could vote to issue bonds, could vote to mortgage property, could vote to borrow funds, could do anything and everything that the housing authority could do. So the first thing the amendment does is to change that so it requires a majority of the board, a majority of the board, to take action. Secondly if you would turn to page three, line 27, and if you would start up in line 4, you would see that the bill gives all cities, villages and counties the power and authority to